



**A FASTENER DEVICE FOR FASTENING TWO COMPONENTS,
A COMBINATION OF THE FASTENER DEVICE WITH THE TWO
COMPONENTS AND A METHOD OF MAKING A JOINT
BETWEEN TWO COMPONENTS**

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application claims priority of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/647,603 filed January 4, 2001 and to German Patent Application No. 198 15 407.0 filed April 6, 1998.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a fastener device which is or can be fixed at its one end to a first component by means of a joint which can be produced by a forming technique, preferably a riveted joint, and which has a receiving area configured or configurable to receive a bolt, a nut or another element, for example a bayonet part or a shaft. The present invention further relates to a combination of such a fastener device with one, two or three components and to a method of making a joint between a first and a second component while utilizing such a fastener device.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

A fastener device of the kind initially mentioned is known from a number of publications. European Patent 0 539 793, for example, discloses a nut element which can be introduced in a form-locked and force-transmitting manner into a component, in particular into a sheet metal part, by means of a method termed clamping hole riveting. Piercing bolts are also known from German patents P 30 03 908 and P 34 47 006 which can be inserted in a self-piercing manner into a component in the form of a sheet metal part, with the features of shape, which form the so-called piercing and riveting section of the bolt element, being provided on the side of the head remote from the shaft part of the bolt element, so that after the bolt element has been inserted into a component from one side, the shaft part of the bolt element extends away from the sheet metal part on this side.

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